

Elba UMC closes
VBS with Family
Night



The Elba Clipper
1897 125 YEARS 2022

INSIDE

Summer
workouts
underway for
Elba Tigers



The Elba Clipper

Volume 126, Number 06

50 Cents

Elba, Alabama

Thursday, June 30, 2022

1 Section, 8 Pages

Local law enforcement agencies conduct distribution of controlled substance arrests

According to Coffee County Jail records, two individuals from Elba currently are in jail on distribution of controlled substance charges.

On Saturday, June 25, Elba Police arrested Drexel Simmons, age 40, of Elba, on two separate counts of distribution of a controlled substance. He was booked in the county jail at 6:50 a.m. Saturday morning.

Simmons will have to meet a \$60,000 bond to be released from the Coffee County Jail. Each count of the distribution charges carries a



\$30,000 bond. He remained in the county jail as of press time this week.

On Monday, June 27, deputies with the Coffee County Sheriff's Office arrested Clisbe Thomas, age 44, of Elba on three separate counts of distribution of a controlled substance. He was booked in the county jail at 10:02 a.m. Monday morning.

His total bond was \$90,000 [+\$30,000 each for the three distribution charges], and he was released from the jail on bond just after 10 a.m. Monday.

Elba Splash Pad to be OPEN Monday, July 4th, for holiday

The Elba Parks and Recreation has announced the Elba Splash Pad will be open Monday, July 4 from 10 a.m. until 10 p.m.

The Splash Pad is normally closed on Mondays for maintenance. This special opening on Monday, July 4th, is for the holiday and in conjunction with Elba's Let Freedom Ring event to be held Monday evening, beginning at 6 p.m. in downtown Elba.

The crash occurred on Geneva County Road 64 at Railroad Street, approximately three miles northeast of Chancellor, Ala., in Geneva County. Nothing further was released by Troopers.

Elba man dies in Geneva County wreck

Troopers with the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency (ALEA) Highway Patrol Division reported Friday, June 24, that a two-vehicle crash in Geneva County had claimed the life of an Elba man.

According to Troopers, the crash occurred at approximately 10:10 a.m. last Friday morning, and Skylie Lee Roberts, age 20, of Elba, was fatally injured when the 2006 Yamaha R6 motorcycle he was operating struck a 2003 Chevrolet Silverado truck. Roberts was thrown from the motorcycle causing the fatal injuries, and he was pronounced dead at the scene.

The crash occurred on Geneva County Road 64 at Railroad Street, approximately three miles northeast of Chancellor, Ala., in Geneva County. Nothing further was released by Troopers.

Another crash at wreck prone intersection...



MINOR INJURIES REPORTED...For the second Saturday in a row, local emergency personnel responded to a two-vehicle wreck at intersection of U.S. Hwy. 84 and Ala. Hwy. 141 in the Curtis Community of Coffee County. At 12:41 p.m. Saturday afternoon, June 25, dispatchers with the Elba Police Department received report of the accident, and emergency personnel was dispatched. This accident (as shown above) involved two SUV's. According to officials on scene, it appeared the gray SUV was traveling Hwy. 141 when it crossed U.S. Hwy 84 at the intersection. The red SUV was traveling on U.S. Hwy 84 when the other vehicle failed to give proper yield to it thus causing the crash. While both vehicles sustained heavy damages in this crash, only minor injuries were reported. Above, members of the Elba Volunteer Fire Department work to secure the crash scene following the wreck.

Mayor provides progress update during council meeting

Elba working to acquire crisis diversion center

by Linda Hodge, Editor

The Splash Pad is normally closed on Mondays for maintenance. This special opening on Monday, July 4th, is for the holiday and in conjunction with Elba's Let Freedom Ring event to be held Monday evening, beginning at 6 p.m. in downtown Elba. The Splash Pad is located at Tiger Town Park in Elba

center in the city. Maddox said Tommy Wright, director of the South Central Alabama Mental Health Center, was set to be in Elba on Tuesday of this week to look at potential sites identified for crisis center to be constructed should Elba be selected. He further said that he and city clerk Sally Bane would be meeting with that board on July 28th, and that is anticipated to be the date a decision will be made regarding

ing a location for the crisis diversion center.

"We have provided them with a packet based on the property we are purchasing, but there is possibility they will prefer another property," Maddox said. "We will find out additional information if they desire something else, but we feel like they will be pleased with the property we have shown them already."

The mayor said Wright and some of the board members from the local area had already looked at the property the city is purchasing as a potential spot for the center. This property is along Hickman Avenue across from the Enterprise Rescue

NOTICE:

The Elba Clipper office will be closed Monday, July 4, in observance of the Independence Day holiday.

See ELBA, Page 3

Elba's "Let Freedom Ring" event set for Monday, July 4th!

The Elba Chamber of Commerce and City of Elba will host its annual 4th of July celebration "Let Freedom Ring" Monday, July 4, on the square in downtown Elba, beginning at 6 p.m.

There will be a patriotic "golf cart" parade, entertainment by Blind Skeleton, inflatable rides, contests, and food concessions available throughout the evening, and the highlight will be the fireworks show set to begin at approximately 9 p.m.

Music entertainment by Blind Skeleton is set to start around 6:30 p.m., according to Elba Chamber director Sandy Williams. Elba native Bill Brueckner is a member of this group.

"We are very excited about this year's event," Williams said. "We anticipate more food vendors be on site than ever before, and we are looking forward to the entertainment, which features one of Elba's own!"

Williams said this is a free community event with no charge to enjoy the entertainment and fireworks. There are charges, however, for some of the children's activities and food administered by those individual vendors.



Elba High School Golf Coach Mark Wicker and his team accepted a copy of a resolution Monday morning presented by the Coffee County Commission recognizing the outstanding accomplishments of the 2022 golf team for winning the Class 1A/2A state championship in May. The resolution was presented by Commission Chairman Dean Smith (right). Team members present for Monday's recognition included: Trace Grantham, Carson Wise, Jay Martin, Paxton Wise, Collin Sauls, and Peyton McCart, and Coach Wicker. Not in attendance was team member Bradley Chapman.

Coffee County Commission honors Elba High's state champion golf team

by Linda Hodge, Editor

championship home to Elba [and Coffee County].

As he read the resolution, commission chairman Dean Smith encouraged all citizens of Coffee County to join the county leaders in congratulating the young men from Elba on their successes.

The Elba High School boys golf team has represented Coffee County with considerable distinction, sportsmanship and class, and the residents of Coffee County are extremely proud of the team all they have

achieved this year,"

Smith read. "The recognition

and celebration of our

championship team serves to

bring our community together

in honoring our students

and their coach for a remark-

able and historic season."

The 2022 state champion

golf team members for Elba

included: Peyton McCart,

Collin Sauls, Carson Wise,

and Paxton Wise, Jay

Martin, Trace Grantham,

and Bradley Chapman. The team

is coached by Mark Wicker.

Coach Wicker thanked

commissioners for their rec-

kognition of the team, and

he said being able to win

the state championship two

years in a row was a true tes-

tament to the golfers being

dedicated to the sport.

Four members of the

team graduated this year

- McCart, Sauls, and the

Wise brothers. Wicker said

Martin, Grantham, and

Chapman would all return

next season, and the team is

looking to add more players.

No garbage collection services July 4th for Coffee County

Coffee County Environmental Services director Mike Thornton announced that landfill and garbage collections services will not operate Monday, July 4, due to the holiday. With no residential garbage collection on Monday, he said all pickups will shift one day to the right next week [i.e., Monday's pickup will be on Tuesday, Tuesday's pickup will be on Wednesday, and so on].

Also, in regard to the upcoming Independence Day holiday, Sheriff Dave Sutton reminded all citizens that "alcohol and fireworks are a bad combination." He said injuries can happen when those two things are mixed.

Sutton encouraged all citizens to be safe over the holiday.

familiar with the changes. He said there were numerous revisions throughout the entire document.

One change Lentz specifically noted was a revision to the thickness of asphalt for new road construction within subdivisions. He said that thickness had been increased.

Lentz recommended the effective date for the new regulations be Jan. 1, 2023 to allow time for developers to review and become

"We encourage developers to go to our website and download a copy of this updated document or they can pay to have us print them a copy," Lentz said.

Commissioners voted unanimously to approve the update subdivision regula-

tions prior to Monday was 2007.

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EDITORIAL

BRAINSTORMS

With Ferrin Cox

"Don't knock the weather. If it didn't change once in a while, nine out ten people couldn't start a conversation." – Kin Hubbard.

Alabama has released some federal funds that are earmarked for weatherizing homes for elderly, low-income residents. That sounds great until you read the fine print. The amount coming to the twelve (12) county area which includes Coffee County totals \$46,316! Divide that evenly between the twelve counties and you get a bit over \$3,859 per county AND that is before the district office gets the allotted "administrative cost" and official audit of every home that potentially qualifies for the grants off the top (which is sometimes limited to five or ten percent of the grant)! Organized Community Action Program Inc., headquartered in Troy, leads this twelve county group. (Barbour, Bullock, Butler, Coffee, Covington, Crenshaw, Dale, Geneva, Henry, Houston, Lowndes, and Pike).

There is lots of celebrating the Supreme Court ruling released Monday that allows a football coach to pray aloud on the 50-yard line after a football game. They cited freedom of religion and freedom of speech. However, this is a double edge sword! This freedom of religion and speech stuff applies to EVERYONE and EVERY religion. Therefore if some religion (or someone we call a 'nut' case) you or I don't like wants to pray aloud . . . they can't legally be stopped.

Following the Supreme Court ruling this week on abortion we read in some church news releases that The United Methodist Church expresses belief in "the sanctity of unborn human life" but also recognizes "tragic conflicts of life that may justify abortion". We didn't realize that our thinking on abortion was closely tracking that of our church. We have never considered advising, nor encouraging, anyone family, friend, or foe to consider an abortion. In the same breath we have never condemned anyone for making such a decision, for whatever reason. There probably are situations where we would openly agree with someone for making such a decision. All that sounds like political banner . . . *"Some of my friends are for it and some of my friends are against it – and I am with my friends."* This position is not new. We recall a situation during our teen years when a young hometown girl was rumored to have sought out an illegal abortion, reportedly in a neighboring town and don't recall having any negative opinions of her actions. (We did have hopes that she didn't get some infection or bleed to death in that illegal abortion clinic). A couple of times since becoming an adult we have been asked, 'where can someone get an abortion?' Each time they were asking 'for a friend' but our answer was always, "I don't know."

The "January 6" hearings are continuing in Washington. Some frightening statements are coming out of those public hearings. The question arises, "What will come of these hearings?" While our personal opinion is that laws were broken and could have resulted in a national disaster, the bottom line will be lots of fodder for the history books but no one will go to jail. Much more damaging comments will undoubtedly be issued, time, waning public interest, and other major problems (war, storms, crashing economies, etc.) will gradually push this to the back burner and to a withering death.

Be safe, wear your mask when appropriate, social distance and get the shots.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Community Member,
The COVID-19 pandemic took all by surprise, locking us in our homes, losing loved ones to this deadly virus, and forcing us to produce new hobbies we never thought we would do,

such as making bread from scratch.
Now that we are coming back to a new norm of life, we realized that going into quarantine caused many of us to come out with extra pounds that are too stubborn

to get rid of. Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated and Good Health Wins are partnering with Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. to host the "Walk Covid Weight Off" Walk on Aug. 20th. This event will take place at the Troy Sportsplex Trail from 8 am until 12 pm.

We are looking for vendors. Our goal is to encourage good health, give people ideas of how to shred the extra weight and have fun. Along with you and others as vendors, we will have food, music, games for kids, keynote speaker and line dance instructor.

If your business is interested in becoming an official vendor, please let us know your participation status via email at bppeyton21@gmail.com or by phone on 251-930-3250. The deadline to inform us of your participation status is July 20th.

Sincerely,
Blessa Peyton, Walk Covid Off Walk Chair
Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Inc.
Gamma Alpha Xi Zeta Chapter

Elba Police Report

The Elba Police Department, between Tuesday, June 21, 2022, and Monday, June 27, 2022, conducted the following activity:

Tuesday, June 21 – Grass fire reported on County Rd 401 (12:38 a.m.); Traffic accident reported at 556 County Rd 263 (5:53 a.m.); Traffic accident reported at 10378 Hwy 189 (6:14 a.m.); Reckless driver reported on Davis St E (9:36 a.m.); Drug activity reported on Simmons St (1:24 p.m.); Reckless driver reported on Hwy 87 (2:50 p.m.); Suspicious circumstances reported at 120 Old Samson Rd (4:03 p.m.); Harassment reported on Simmons St (4:24 p.m.); Suspicious vehicle reported at 1456 N Claxton Ave (10:32 p.m.). Five traffic stops resulted in one citation, one arrest, one written warning, one verbal warning, and one report.

Saturday, June 25 – Reckless driver reported on Hwy 125 – with verbal warning (12:02 p.m.); Traffic accident reported at the intersection of Hwy 84 and Hwy 141 (12:41 p.m.); Assault reported on Hickman Ave (4:44 p.m.); Fireworks complaint reported on Reese Ave (9:03 p.m.); Suspicious circumstances reported at 19810 Hwy 87 (9:13 p.m.). Seven traffic stops resulted in two written warnings, three verbal warnings, and two citations.

Sunday, June 26 – Drug activity reported at 1019 Garrett St (4:48 a.m.); Suspicious circumstances reported at 1280 Ann St (11:17 a.m.); Animal complaint reported at Elba City Hall (12:01 p.m.); Criminal mischief reported at 342 N Court Ave (1:28 p.m.); Suspicious person reported at 429 N Claxton Ave (10:32 p.m.). Eight traffic stops resulted in four citations, three verbal warnings, and one written warning.

Thursday, June 23 – Suspicious circumstances reported at 1176 Neil Grantham Dr (12:02 a.m.); Stabbing/cutting reported on Beaver Dam St (12:56 a.m.); Suspicious circumstances reported at 816 Putnam St (1:13 a.m.); Suspicious vehicle reported at 992 Hwy 203 (2:34 a.m.); Suspicious person reported at 402 Collier St (2:41 a.m.); Suspicious vehicle reported at 2667 Hickman Ave (4:57 a.m.); Animal complaint reported at 1217 Farris Ave – w/ animal impound (8:13 a.m.); Trespassing reported on Forest Lake Dr (3:16 p.m.); Suspicious person reported at Hwy 84/Hwy 87 (8:25 p.m.). Six traffic stops resulted in two citations, one written warning, and one verbal warning.

Monday, June 27 – Vehicle fire reported at 706 Putnam St (11:39 a.m.); Drug activity reported at 640 Reynolds Ave (12:08 p.m.); Theft of property reported at 990 Hwy 203 (12:27 p.m.); Burglary reported at 1584 Caroline St, C-4 (2:12 p.m.); Traffic accident reported at intersection of Hwy 203 and Hickman Ave (2:24 p.m.); Traffic accident reported at 2691 Marilyn St (2:30 p.m.); Fight reported at 911 Farris Ave (6:25 p.m.); Theft of property reported at 221 E Davis St (8:01 p.m.); Structure fire reported at 891 Old Samson Rd (8:49 p.m.). One traffic stop resulted in a verbal warning.

would like to contribute. You may bring a tent and table to set up your space. We only ask that you can bring a gift of your choice from your business that you would like to raffle off during the walk. In return, we will promote your business as an official vendor at the event.

We are looking for vendors. Our goal is to encourage good health, give people ideas of how to shred the extra weight and have fun. Along with you and others as vendors, we will have food, music, games for kids, keynote speaker and line dance instructor.

If your business is interested in becoming an official vendor, please let us know your participation status via email at bppeyton21@gmail.com or by phone on 251-930-3250. The deadline to inform us of your participation status is July 20th.

Sincerely,

Blessa Peyton, Walk Covid Off Walk Chair

Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Inc.

Gamma Alpha Xi Zeta Chapter



Editor's Note: Cuzin Lou Lou's tales are to be enjoyed as a light-hearted form of Southern expression

Cuzin Lou Lou has determined that Sister and Papa have a sweet set-up when it comes to doing things around the house.

Last Saturday was supposed to be "clean up" day around the Yonder gang's house, and it started out pretty well, but soon Lou Lou realized she was the only one actually making progress towards the ultimate goal. Papa got 'excused' from the work early because he was not feeling well.

Lou Lou did not remembered excusing Sister from her part of the chores...yet, she looked up from scrubbing the shower at some point to find Sister in the bed taking a nap! Her excuse when Lou Lou pointed this out was that Lou Lou had

"kept her out too late the night before" when the two AGREED to a little road trip. While frustrated with Sister, Lou Lou did not let it deter her from accomplishing the things she had set out to do on Saturday! However, it really hit her later in the evening that she was 'spoiling' the Yonder gang!

Not only had she completed the majority of the day's housework, but she found herself cooking supper for the gang too!!

Lou Lou decided she's got to get better control of the household before things spiral way out of control... honestly, it may be too late already!

Until next time...God Bless and Keep Smiling!

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USPS 171-080

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Linda Hodge - EDITOR
Ricky Mularz - SPORTS

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6 Months - \$11, including city & state tax
Alabama Counties - \$24 per year - including tax
6 months - \$13
Outside Alabama - \$27 per year - 6 months - \$15

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Coffee County Board of Education members approve several personnel matters during two recent meetings

The Coffee County Board of Education held its regular meeting on Thursday, June 9, and then held a called meeting on Thursday, June 23, and several personnel actions were approved during these two meetings.

During the June 9th meeting, Johnny Randall Bryant Jr. was employed as the assistant principal for Zion Chapel School during the 2022-2023 school year. Bryant had already been employed at the school in teacher/coach positions.

Also, during the meeting, Emily Herbert was employed to be the assistant principal at New Brockton Elementary School for the 2022-2023 school year. She replaces Jared Robinson in this position following his employment as the new principal for Zion Chapel School during the May 26th board meeting.

Three teacher hires were approved on June 9th. These

included Katie Parrish and Courtney Day as teachers at Zion Chapel Elementary for the upcoming school year and Rebecca Garner to be a teacher at Zion Chapel High for the upcoming school year.

One teacher resignation was accepted on June 9th by the board. Celeste Jones resigned as a teacher at New Brockton Elementary School.

Also, during the June 9th meeting, Kevin Adams was hired to be a special education teacher-aide at New Brockton High for the 2022-2023 school year.

During the June 23rd meeting three board accepted three teacher resignations. Marlee Boswell resigned as a teacher at New Brockton Middle School, Shae George resigned as a teacher at New Brockton Middle School, and Megan Carson resigned as a teacher at Zion Chapel Elementary.

Troy University recognizes local students for completing IMPACT

the Fall 2022 semester.

Those local students

include: Abbie Anderson of Kinston, Ala., and Undreya Chism of Elba, Ala.

ELBA

(Continued from Page ONE)

Elba Police Chief looks at traffic enforcement numbers

During the Elba City Council meeting Monday, June 27, Police Chief Troy Staley provided a traffic enforcement comparison to council members.

The comparison timeframe was January – May for 2021 compared to January – May for 2022.

During this timeframe for 2021, Chief Staley said the department had issued 256 citations and 177 written warnings. This year, for the same timeframe, he said there have been 321 citations issued and 256 written warnings.

Solutions for professional engineering design and construction observation as outlined in the city's FY2022 Community Development Block Grant application if awarded by the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs.

The resolution also gave authority to the mayor to negotiate and enter into agreement with Southern Engineering Solutions for the services.

The council also approved a resolution guaranteeing a certain loan request by the Elba Airport Authority.

The airport authority has requested a \$188,000 construction loan for Taxi Lane improvements.

The total project cost is \$1,092,591, and with the federal and state allotments, the requested short-term amount is only \$188,000. The mayor said the loan would be paid off when the 2023 Airport Improvement Grant and the Airport Improvement Programs Allotments are released.

APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC HOUSING AND SECTION 8



1207 North Claxton Avenue • Elba, AL 36323
(334) 897-2737 • www.elbahousing.org

The Elba Housing Authority does not discriminate because of race, color, national origin, sex, perceived sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status, religion, familial status, or disability. The Elba Housing Authority has handicapped accessible units.

Protect with 3!

✓ Tdap ✓ HPV ✓ MCV4

Protect your patients against vaccine preventable diseases.

As healthcare professionals, it is up to you to ensure your patients remain up to date with their vaccines.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and The Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH) recommend the following vaccines for adolescents:

- Tetanus, Diphtheria, Pertussis
- Human papillomavirus
- Meningococcal disease
- Influenza



For more information, please visit alabamapublichealth.gov/imm

Obituaries

Death notices updated regularly on our website at <www.elba-clipper.com>

BRENDA LEIGH BROWN

Mrs. Brenda Leigh Brown, age 51, of Elba, Ala., died Monday, June 20, 2022, at Baptist Medical Center South in Montgomery, Ala.

Funeral services were held Friday, June 24, 2022, from the Chapel of Hayes Funeral Home in Elba with Rev. Lloyd Hodge officiating. Burial followed in the Shiloh Baptist Church Cemetery.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Michael Brown; parents, Lomax and Mavis Parks; and brothers, Mickey Parks and Donald Parks.

Survivors include her daughters: Shelley Hutchinson and Kimberly Dawn

Elba Schools participates in national CEP meal program

With the passage of the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010, the National School Lunch Program now

still be purchases at the high school.

- Other Prices
- Employee Breakfast: \$2.50
- Lunch: \$4.00
- Visitor Children Breakfast: \$2.50
- Lunch: \$3.75
- Adult: Breakfast: \$2.50
- Lunch: \$4.00

Upcoming Area Events:

• The Alex Wright Football Camp will be Tuesday, July 12, from 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. at Elba High School Tiger Stadium (371 Tiger Drive, Elba).

This is a free event. Register at: alexwright.eventbrite.com

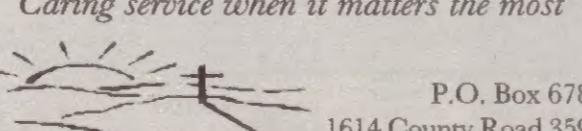
• Restoration 154 in Elba will host Rockin the River on Saturday, July 23 from 7 a.m. until 4 p.m. in downtown Elba.

This event will have arts and crafts, a kayak race on Pea River, local art demonstrations, face painting, a corn-hole tournament, rubber ducky race, bounce houses, pageant, parade, and more.

Check out the Restoration 154 Facebook page for more information.

Horizon Vault & Monument Company, Inc.

Caring service when it matters the most



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1614 County Road 359
Elba, AL 36323

Locally Owned & Operated by Heath and Jessica Wyrosdick (334) 897-8300

ELBA | ENTERPRISE Coleman

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Coleman & Sowell Memorial & Vault

~ Complete Cemetery Work ~

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2011 Hickman Ave - Elba

701 Daleville Ave - Enterprise

Serving with Dignity and Care!

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Trusted Choice Phone: (334) 897-3431

Website: southeastinsuranceinc.com

Email: RKYOUNG4@aol.com

If you would like a free funeral decisions guide, please email me at hayesfh@hayesfuneralhome.net

431 East Davis Elba, Alabama 36323 (334) 897-2225

PASTOR'S CORNER

by Ken Wilson, Pastor

Westside Baptist Church, Elba

Timber!

My dad always loved his yard. He took great pride in having what he considered to be one of the best looking yards in the neighborhood. Actually, he came by it honestly; my grandfather had quite the green thumb and enjoyed yard work greatly. My grandfather used words like "mulch" and "aerate" when he talked about his yard and his eyes would light up. My dad had been groomed to be an expert in the area of lawn maintenance and he definitely had not been a disappointment.

Dad spent many hours in the yard on Saturdays and on days off. There was grass to be cut, raked, fertilized, and/or watered. Shrubs had to be trimmed and azaleas had to be trenched around. Then there were things like herbicide and insecticide, which did God only knows what to weeds and bugs, that had to be spread or sprayed on plants and bushes. There was always something that could be done in the yard if there was time to spare.

Yard work was my father's way of unwinding from the stresses of practicing medicine. It was a chance to be by himself for a while, and he enjoyed the release. Being in the ministry and the father of four, I now understand full well what an escape yard work can be. When I was young, however, I tried to be scarce when Dad was working in the yard. Of course, that was just the way he wanted it, until I was old enough to push a lawnmower.

We had a pretty large corner lot in a wooded neighborhood so we had lots of grass and lots of trees. For a while my dad had a pretty good system going. My brother and I would weed-eat and cut the grass while my dad would supervise. For one person it was an all day project, but with two it could be done on a Saturday morning leaving, the afternoon free.

After my brother went to college my dad changed his strategy. We got two lawnmowers and he and I could cut at the same time, thus reducing the time. This worked well for a few years, but, as I got older and involved in more activities, Dad ended up doing more and more of the work himself. Once again, a strategy change was necessary. After much deliberation my father made a monumental decision. The time had come to buy a riding lawnmower.

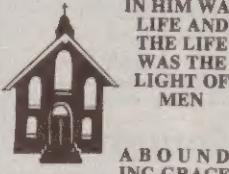
My dad's buying a riding lawnmower was like the Beatles making a disco album. I never thought he would bring himself to break down and get one. I think he thought it was lazy to ride while you cut grass. Whatever the case, Dad had made his mind up and there was no stopping him. It was time!

I went with him to Sears to pick out his new mower. I figured I might be using it some and I wanted to see what we were getting. He looked rather unimpressed with some of the larger tractor style mowers that I liked. I wanted "power," not maneuverability. Dad, however, wanted something that would be easier to handle around all our trees, so he picked a smaller, less tractor-looking mower. It was more like a seat on top of a motor with a steering wheel and blade underneath.

I was a little afraid of what the neighbors might say about our strange looking riding lawnmower as they cut their yards atop their lawn tractors. Frankly, ours looked a little silly. Dad liked it though, and that was what was important. He would be the one they saw on it most of the time anyway. Maybe I could use it at night.

My next-door neighbor John Pegues (his dad had a lawn tractor) and I were playing in the yard a few days later when the Sears truck pulled into the driveway. We watched as they unloaded the strange looking little red machine. I heard the sarcasm in John's voice as he said,

See PASTOR'S CORNER, Page 5



IN HIM WAS LIFE AND THE LIFE WAS THE LIGHT OF MEN
COMMUNITY CHURCH
Rocky Pearce, Pastor
Morn. Worship...11:00 a.m.
Even. Service...5:00 p.m.

ABUNDANT LIFE CHURCH SAMSON, Ala.
Richard Thorn Sr., Pastor
Morn. Worship...10:30 a.m.
Wed. Night Service:7:00 p.m.

DAMASCUS BAPTIST CHURCH

Steve Watson, Pastor

Sunday School...9:45 a.m.

Morn. Worship...11:00 a.m.

Even. Worship...6:00 p.m.

Wed. Prayer Service:7:00 p.m.

FATH CHAPEL

Harry Driggers, Pastor

Sunday School...10:00 a.m.

Morn. Worship...11:00 a.m.

Even. Worship...6:00 p.m.

Wed. Prayer Service:7:00 p.m.

BASIN BAPTIST CHURCH

Sam Self, Pastor

Sunday School...9:30 a.m.

Morn. Worship...10:30 a.m.

Wed. Prayer Meet.:6:30 p.m.

BETHLEM AME CHURCH

Deborah A. Butler, Pastor

Sunday School...10:00 a.m.

Morn. Worship...11:00 a.m.

Wed. Bible Study...6:00 p.m.

Wed. Bible Study...6:30 p.m.

ELBA CHURCH OF GOD OF PROPHECY

H.L. Buckner, Pastor

Sunday School...10:00 a.m.

Morn. Worship...11:00 a.m.

Disciple Train...5:30 p.m.

Even. Worship...6:30 p.m.

ELBA CHURCH OF GOD

Greg Cotter, Pastor

Sunday School...9:00 a.m.

Morn. Worship...10:00 a.m.

Disciple Train...5:30 p.m.

Even. Worship...6:30 p.m.

ELBA DELIVERANCE TABERNACLE

Allen Richards, Pastor

Sunday School...10:00 a.m.

Morn. Worship...11:00 a.m.

Even. Service...5:00 p.m.

Wed. Service...6:00 p.m.

ELBA FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

W.K. Ellison, Pastor

Sunday School...9:45 a.m.

Morn. Worship...11:00 a.m.

Even. Service...6:00 p.m.

HARRIS TEMPLE COGIC CHURCH

Kit Johnson, Pastor

Sunday School...9:00 a.m.

2nd & 4th Sundays

Sunday School...9:00 a.m.

1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays

Sunday School...10:00 a.m.

2nd & 4th Sundays

ELBA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Steve Reneau, Pastor

Sunday School...9:00 a.m.

Morn. Worship...10:00 a.m.

Even. Services...6:00 p.m.

Wed. Bible Study...6:00 p.m.

ELBA ZION BAPTIST CHURCH

Lowell Martin, Pastor

Sunday School...9:45 a.m.

Morn. Worship...11:00 a.m.

Even. Service...6:00 p.m.

Wed. Even. Meeting:7:00 p.m.

HEBROW BAPT. CHURCH

Mark Cooper, Pastor

Sunday School...10:00 a.m.

Morn. Worship...11:00 a.m.

Even. Service...5:00 p.m.

Wed. Service...6:30 p.m.

MT. ZION BAPTIST CHURCH

Will Jordan, Pastor

Sunday School...10:00 a.m.

Morn. Worship...11:00 a.m.

Even. Service...5:00 p.m.

Wed. Pray. Meet.:7:00 p.m.

ELBA CHURCH NEWS

by Ken Wilson, Pastor

Westside Baptist Church, Elba

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LIFESTYLES

Danny Long approved as president of ESCC

During its regular meeting on Wednesday, June 8, the Alabama Community College System Board of Trustees approved Danny Long as the sixth president of Enterprise State Community College. Long has served as Acting President of the College since March.

"The Wiregrass community is a special part of Alabama that has a significant role in the state's workforce, which is why a skilled career technical leader like Danny with a heart for the community and for education makes perfect sense," said Jimmy H. Baker, Chancellor of the Alabama Community College System (ACCS). "Danny knows the College, the communities it serves, K-12 and industry, and he knows what it takes to continue our mission of making education available for everyone."

Long has nearly 30 years of K-12 and higher education experience. Prior to his appointment as Acting President at Enterprise State, Long had served as Dean of Instruction at the College since 2017 and



Danny Long

see major improvement and construction projects on both campuses at both Enterprise State and the Alabama Aviation College.

A Sarasota, Fla. native, Long began his career in education at Vivian B. Adams School in Ozark, where he served as both a special education teacher and assistant director. He then served at Enterprise High School, where he was a teacher, coordinator, career technical education director and assistant principal.

Long is an alum of Troy University, where he earned a Bachelor of Science in Vocational Education, Master's in Special Education, Master's in Education Leadership, and an Educational Special Degree in Educational Leadership.

"Enterprise State and the Alabama Aviation College are where we are because of the strong investment of faculty, staff, community, K-12 and business and industry partners who give us insight on what they need and trust our willingness to be there when they need us," Long said. "I'm thankful for the opportunity to lead several innovative efforts in programs that matter to our region and our state, and I'm appreciative for the confidence our community college system and our community has in Enterprise continuing to rise together."

As Vice President since 2020. His collaborative efforts with business and industry helped to develop and implement new instructional programs at the College, including Advanced Composites (AAS), Mechatronics (AAS), a Commercial Driver's License (CDL) training program, Digital Multimedia (AAS), EMS (AAS), Medical Assisting Technology (AAS), Basic Industrial Electronics (STC), Basic Industrial Mechanics (STC), CNC Operator/Programmer (STC), Licensed Practical Nursing Program (LPN), and Auditing and Assurance (AAS). Long worked alongside the President to over-

Seniors encouraged to join the fun at the Elba Senior Citizens Center

Donna Falls, director of the Elba Senior Citizens Center, encourages all seniors age 60 and older to attend the Elba Senior Citizens Center.

Along with nutritious meals 5-days-per-week, Falls works with seniors to help them apply for several programs that they may qualify, including: Farmers Market Vouchers, HRDC- Energy Assistance, Food Assistance, Medicaid Waiver, Senior Rx Program, Medicare Savings Program, etc. However, the senior must be an active participant at the Elba Senior

Center for the director to sign them up for these type programs.

To become a center participant, attendance is not based on income. The Elba Senior Citizens Center is a social place for any senior citizen to come have fun and find or make new friends.

If interested in joining the center, stop by [304 Factory Ave in downtown Elba] or call (334) 897-3019.

Any senior age 60 and older that cannot come to the center may qualify for meal delivery to the home. Call Donna Falls at (334) 897-3019 for more information.

PASTOR'S CORNER...

(Continued from Page 4)

"That thing sure looks different than my dad's." "Yea, well, we got more trees than y'all do," I said in a desperate attempt to save face, but I knew he was right.

My dad excitedly filled it up with gas and cranked it up. It was loud, which made me feel a little better. I don't know what might have been said if it had been quiet on top of odd looking. Dad hopped on and began to ride around the yard. It did maneuver well, no question about it. He dropped the blade and began to cut a little to see how it looked. He was pleased with the beautiful strip of cut grass that stretched out behind him. In fact, he was so pleased with what was behind him he forgot to look ahead of him. He ran right into one of our loblolly pine trees. Quickly jarred back into reality, he tried to remember how to stop this machine he was riding. As Dad frantically tried to get the mower out of gear, the front end began to inch up the trunk of the tree. John stared wide eyed as my dad's riding lawnmower came close to vertical while hearing my dad curse loudly as he tried to stop the runaway machine.

When Dad finally stopped the mower and got it out of the tree, I puffed my chest up proudly and said to John, "I bet your dad's lawnmower won't do that". John never made fun of my dad's mower again. Dad used that mower for several years after that, but he never spent much time looking behind him; he kept his eyes on where he was headed.

Jesus had a little to say about looking where we have been. "No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for service in the kingdom of God." (Luke 9:62) In other words, our purpose as Christians should be in front of us. We can't do anything about what is behind us whether it is good or bad. However, we have the power through Him to do something with the future.

Join Us for Kids Crusade

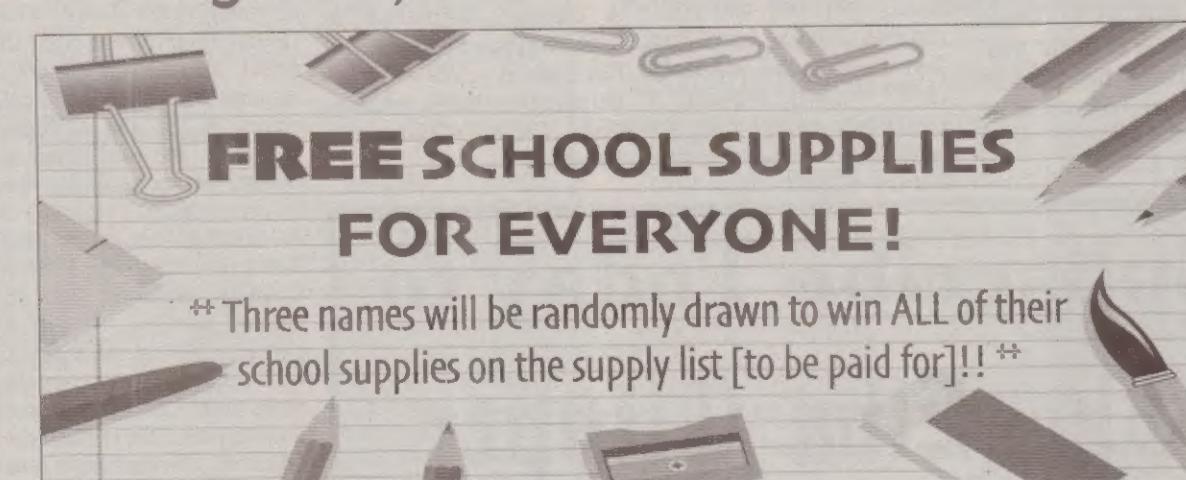
Elba First Assembly of God

1320 Highland Drive, Elba, Alabama

Saturday, July 9 • 10 a.m. until 2:30 p.m.

Open to all Children: Ages 4 to 12

Come Enjoy the fun, music, puppets, food, games, and WATER SLIDES!!



Register Child online at: vbsmate.com or
Parents Must Come In When Dropping Child Off to Register

Boys should wear swim shorts and t-shirt; Girls should wear swimsuit with shorts and shirt over it. Bring a towel with Child's Name on it.

For More Info.: Call Tab Weeks @ (334) 494-5401



The Elba Masonic Lodge # 170 passed Charles Matthew Brunson to the Fellow Craft degree Tuesday night, June 21, during a ceremony at the lodge. Food and fellowship were enjoyed by all members present. Those pictured above include: (front, l to r) Dale Stewart, Mike Amison, Alan Crenshaw, Charles Matthew Brunson, Jack Caradine, Michael Phelps, and Eddie Kelley; (middle, l to r) Troy Gideon III, Joel Moore, Shane Goude, and Earl Smith; (back, l to r) Jerome Blackmon, PGM Tommy Morrow, and W/M Wendell Black. Not pictured: Neil Henderson and Harry Young.

Military Support Group Meetings:

Enterprise Military Support Group meets on Tuesdays at 7 p.m. Anyone who needs to talk about difficult experiences and needs an understanding friend is invited. Meetings at Church on Boll Weevil Circle, 2017 Boll Weevil Circle, Enterprise, Ala.

The Elba Clipper office will be closed Monday, July 4th!

Renee Kelley



REALTOR



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The Elba Clipper

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FAX 334-897-3434
e-mail clipper@troycable.net

DEADLINE

The deadline for placing a classified or other advertisement is noon on Tuesday of the week in which the ad is to appear. We reserve the right to edit.

COST

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* Additional words 20¢ each

Prepaid personal

HELP WANTED

C & C Trailers, Inc. needs a full time qualified welder/shop mechanic....Semi-Trailer body repair experience helpful.....Hours are 6:15 am - 3:15 pm, M-F.....Call 334-470-0168 or apply in person at 252 Larkin Road, Elba, AL. Drug Screening Required.

4/28-tfc-chg

THE CITY OF ENTERPRISE

IS ACCEPTING

APPLICATIONS FOR THE POSITIONS OF:

- Maintenance Construction Worker 1 & 2
- Refuse Worker 1
- Street Maintenance Worker
- Light Equipment Operator
- Heavy Equipment Operator
- Parks Maintenance Worker 1 (F/T and P/T)
- Police Officer (Certified)
- Certified Firefighter

TO APPLY OR FOR MORE INFORMATION REGARDING MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS & PAY VISIT OUR WEBSITE:

www.enterpriseal.gov

CITY OF ENTERPRISE
CITY HALL, 501 S MAIN ST.
ENTERPRISE, AL.
M - F, 7:30 - 4:30.

EOE

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SUPPORT THE BLIND! Donate a car to the American Council of the Blind. FAST FREE PICKUP. 24-hour response. Running or not, maximum tax deduction and no emission test required! Call 477-844-601-1342

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FARM EQUIPMENT

EARN \$15,000 - \$40,000 OVER 5 YEARS

#1 Hunting Lease Company in America Customize your contract Call Base Camp Leasing (888) 871-1982

EDUCATION

ATTENTION ACTIVE Duty & Military Veterans! Begin a new career and earn your Degree at CTI! Online Computer & Medical training available for Veterans & Families! To learn more, call 866-475-1014 (M-F 8am-6pm ET).

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Call Us!! (334) 897-2823

"125 Years of bringing local news to Elba and Coffee County!"

PUBLIC NOTICES:

Public Notices also are posted on the websites: www.elba-clipper.com and www.alabamapublicnotices.com at no extra charge

CAREGIVING SERVICES

Looking to Sit with the Elderly. I have over 20 years experience. Willing to do light housework and cook meals for patient. Tammy Creech. (334) 343-5142 or (334) 498-1461.

6/30-4t-pd.

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ERRORS

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PAYMENT

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COST

\$500 per week (first 15 words)
* Additional words 20¢ each

ads get fourth week FREE!

Bordered classified ad cost \$5.50 per column inch

Prepaid personal

FOR RENT - COMMERCIAL

TWO COMMERCIAL SPACES available immediately for rent at the Shoppes at Taylor Crossing, Hwy. 203 Bypass, Elba. Call (334) 897-2300 or (334) 470-0145.

6/23-8tchg.

SERVICES

BAKERS TREE SERVICE AND STUMP REMOVAL. 25 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE FREE Estimates. Call 897-2271 after 6:00 p.m.

tfc

SELLING a RV, Tractor or Golf Cart? ADVERTISE STATEWIDE or by region in over 100 Newspapers, reaching over 1 million readers each week! Run your ad in our Classified Network for just \$210 per week! Make one call to this newspaper (participating Ala-SCAN newspaper) or call 1-800-264-7043 to find out how easy it is to advertise statewide!

6/16, 23 & 30 - pd

PUBLIC NOTICE

"Notice is hereby given that Triple J Construction, LLC of P O Box 477, Arley, AL 35541 has completed all work on the SIMMONS STREET DRAINAGE REPLACEMENT in Elba, Alabama." All persons having any claim for labor, materials, or otherwise in connection with this project should immediately notify the above named contractor and the City Clerk of the City of Elba.

6/23, 6/30, 7/7&7/14

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

NEW ADA RAMP FOR KINSTON HIGH SCHOOL AND ZION CHAPEL FOR THE COFFEE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION ELBA, ALABAMA

BECOME A PUBLISHED AUTHOR! We edit, print and distribute your work internationally. We do the work... You reap the Rewards! Call for a FREE Author's Submission Kit: 888-283-4780

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UPDATE YOUR HOME with Beautiful New Blinds & Shades. FREE in-home estimates make it convenient to shop from home. Professional installation. Top quality - Made in the USA. Call for free consultation: 844-809-9165. Ask about our specials!

NOTICE: The Elba Clipper office will be closed Monday, July 4, in observance of the Independence Day holiday.

ATTENTION OXYGEN THERAPY USERS! Inogen One G4 is capable of full 24/7 oxygen delivery. Only 2.8 pounds. FREE information kit. Call 844-322-9935.

ATTENTION: VIAGRA and CIALIS USERS! A cheaper alternative to high drugstore prices! 50 Pill Special - \$99 + FREE Shipping! 100% guaranteed. CALL NOW: 866-508-2828.

GENERAL Standby Generators provide backup power during utility power outages, so your home and family stay safe and comfortable. Prepare now. Free 7-year extended warranty (\$695 value!). Request a free quote today! Call for additional terms and conditions. 1-877-323-5516

HEALTH / BEAUTY

ELIMINATE ROACHES GUARANTEED! Buy Harris Roach Tablets. Odorless, Long Lasting. Available: Publix, Hardware Stores, Home Centers.

ATTENTION: ACTIVE Duty & Military Veterans! Begin a new career and earn your Degree at CTI! Online Computer & Medical training available for Veterans & Families! To learn more, call 866-475-1014 (M-F 8am-6pm ET).

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ATTENTION: VI

COMMUNITY NEWS



Beverly Daniels-Hamilton, center, presented four Holy Angels Gospel Singers scholarships to Elba seniors Saturday, June 18, at Elba High School. The four seniors graduated in May. They are (from left): Ty'Andrea Tillis, Victori Edwards, Trent Hamilton, and Tamiyah Tillis. Each recipient received \$400 in scholarship money.

Holy Angels Gospel Singers Scholarships awarded

In 1975, a group of 10 and 11-year-old children from Harris Temple COGIC and the Mulberry Heights Community came together to form the Holy Angels Gospel Singers, under the leadership of Ross Coleman.

Throughout elementary, high school, and well into their college years, the Holy Angels ministered musically the gospel of Jesus Christ throughout the states of Alabama and Florida. The group never really broke up but went out to pursue their God-given purposes. For 46 years the members have made tremendous contributions in furthering the Kingdom of God.

In an effort to give back to their beloved hometown of Elba, the Holy Angels Gospel Singers in the year of 2021, established a Scholarship Fund to assist in supporting the dreams of senior Elba High School students. The scholarships are presented annually.

The 2022 recipients are Ty'Andrea Tillis, Tamiyah Tillis, Trenton Hamilton, and Victori Edwards. Each recipient submitted an application and brilliant essay and received an award of \$400.

ALEA's Marine Patrol Division reminds citizens to be safe on the waterways this 4th of July holiday weekend

As the Fourth of July holiday weekend draws near, Troopers with the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency's (ALEA) Marine Patrol Division anticipate a tremendous number of citizens to come and enjoy one of Alabama's beautiful waterways. As citizens prepare for the excitement and festivities both near and far, Troopers would like to remind everyone to be courteous, but most importantly to keep safety in mind.

"Our goal is to protect those in the communities we serve and to ensure that recreational boaters, paddlers, fishermen, and others who visit our waters are able to enjoy their time with family and friends safely," said ALEA Secretary Hal Taylor. "Each year, our Agency joins law enforcement agencies across the nation in a safety initiative known as Operation Dry Water (ODW). This safety campaign is scheduled closely to every Fourth of July holiday in an effort to educate boaters on the dangers of boating under the influence and reduce the number of crashes on Alabama's waterways."

With this year's Independence Day falling on a Monday, the holiday travel period will encompass the entire weekend, beginning at 12:01 a.m. Friday, July 1, and ending at midnight Monday, July 4. ALEA's Marine Patrol Division developed a new slogan to provide boaters with an easy and fun way to remember an extremely serious topic. "Be the G.O.A.T (Greatest of All Time) in Your Boat and wear your PFD."

"We want everyone who decides to enjoy one of Alabama's waterways this Fourth of July weekend to have the opportunity to relax and enjoy themselves. However, everyone's excitement and enthusiasm must be partnered with preparation

and responsibility. Recently, we have seen far too many tragic events on Alabama waterways, which is why our Agency is so dedicated and passionate about boater safety as well as education," said ALEA's Director of Public Safety Colonel Jimmy Helm.

Chief Steve Thompson of ALEA's Marine Patrol Division agreed and said, "Our goal is to ensure that everyone can have a safe experience while on an Alabama waterway. We will continue to focus on and share important information with citizens as well as the visitors who plan to celebrate Independence Day in our state.

Our Marine Patrol Troopers will be using targeted enforcement tactics as they patrol across the state's waterways this holiday weekend.

If you are found operating a vessel under the influence, you will be arrested and taken to jail. There will be zero tolerance."

"Safety and preparation are two fundamental characteristics that we all utilize in everyday life, but these are especially essential when you are operating a vessel or participating in any type of water-related activity," added Secretary Taylor. "It only takes a second, for an exciting trip to the lake or beach to turn into a tragedy, that could ultimately cost an individual their life. Situational awareness is key but being fully prepared while on the water is a necessity. It is imperative that everyone uses a U.S. Coast Guard approved Personal Flotation Device (PFD) while in or near the water. In law enforcement we use the term 'Expect the Unexpected,' and we encourage citizens and visitors of Alabama to do the same, especially while on the water. Anything can happen, an individual could slip and fall from a vessel and be beneath the waters' surface in a matter of

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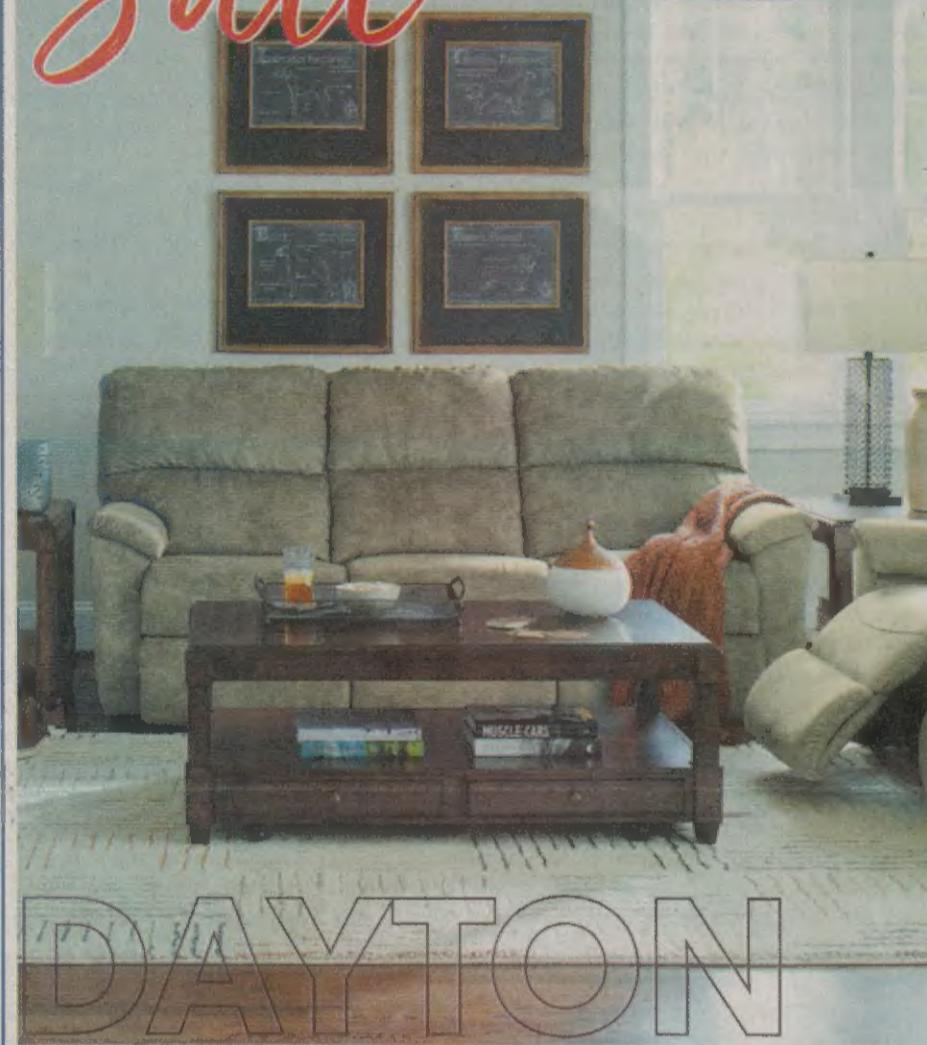
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SPORTS NEWS

Views From

The Pressbox

By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor

Our grandson Lawson made his first trip to the beach during summer vacation over the weekend and except for the long trip seemed to enjoy the one-day outing. As he gets older the beach trips get less attractive due to the trip, the sand, and the sun, but he never complains and makes the best of the long day.

For what it is worth....

*** At most smaller schools there is really just one group of multi-sport student-athletes and that is certainly the case here at Elba High as the various sports share their players for practices and summer playdates. I went to the school one morning last week and there weren't even twenty football players for summer workouts due to the basketball team being out of town for a day of competition, and then headed over to the gym where a much larger group was hard at work at volleyball workouts. The last time I visited summer workouts the opposite was true on a day the girls basketball team was out of town. So, sharing players is just a necessary evil at small schools and is a problem the coaches deal with. The band will begin its workouts soon, and while it will practice in the late afternoon early evenings, many of the same student-athletes will head to band practice after a morning filled with workouts. Being a student in high school is a very busy life and everyone needs to stop and realize the sacrifices student-athletes make on a daily basis.

*** The Atlanta Braves welcomed Freddie Freeman back to town over the weekend for a series with the Dodgers and it was obvious from the start that the Braves fan still love their former all-star first baseman and that the feelings are mutual with Freeman loving Atlanta. He shed a few tears when he walked into the park on Friday and saw a dozen Braves fans still wearing his old jersey, had to stop a pre-game interview after becoming choked up while talking to reporters, and the tears were flowing in pre-game ceremonies when he received his world championship ring. I know the Braves and Freeman both made financial decisions that were best for them, but last weekend's series showed that money isn't always the most important factor in enjoyment.

*** I attended a state softball umpires camp over the weekend up in Oxford and as a clinician and was a little disappointed that less than fifty umpires from across the state chose to attend the annual instructional camp. The AHSAA and other nationwide groups have been warning of an umpire shortage for years, and after last weekend's camp it is clear the shortage is already here. The actions of fans are an obvious source of the loss of officials, but I believe the underlying problem many don't understand is the starting times for games and the fact everyone that may want to officiate high school sports cannot take off work a couple of days a week. Back years ago in basketball the 'b game' would start at 6:00, followed by the varsity game. Now the 'jv' game starts at 4:30, followed by a varsity girls game and a varsity boys game. Many officials must leave work early and then don't get back home until around 10:00, which makes for a long day. One possible solution is basketball is to play girls games two nights a week with a later starting time and play the boys on two other nights, also with a later starting time. The same change in starting times could be used in all sports to help the officials, which is a must, since the games can't be played without officials.

*** In closing.... High school football season is now less than two months away and it is almost time for area fans to start trash-talking about upcoming games and how good their favorite teams are going to be. Get ready!!

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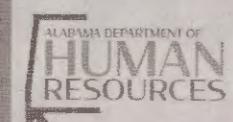
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Tigers battle through hot weather

The Elba Tigers continued their summer workouts last week on the football practice field and despite near record high temperatures never missed a beat as they remained focused on individual and team improvement in four days of work.

"We have been working out in the morning all summer, which really pays dividends when the weather gets hot," said Tigers head coach Marc Sieving. "We make sure the players get plenty of water and hydration fluids, and take a few extra breaks between periods, but there is no decrease in effort when they are at work and last week just showed how dedicated and determined all the players are to being the best they can be when the upcoming season kicks off in late August."

Coach Sieving, entering his third season at the Elba helm, stated the players had been going to camps and getting individual attention during the summer workouts.

"We had nine linemen attend a camp at South Alabama and it helped the entire group grow up and gain a sense of team work, and we have other players attend position camps in which they got individual attention from some of the best college coaches in the nation. We work four days a week on the practice field and in the weight room, and even when we are down in numbers due to players attending basketball play dates the players that stay work hard and get after each other. It is encouraging to watch this group of young men come to workouts and give it everything they have every minute, despite the heat. We as coaches appreciate the efforts and dedication of the players and a better team."

Lady Tigers are hard at work in volleyball workouts

The Elba Lady Tigers have been working hard in recent weeks on conditioning and individual volleyball skills and coach Melissa Mularz is optimistic the upcoming edition of the Lady Tigers could be a team to watch in the 1A ranks.

"We had nine seniors on last season's team," said Coach Mularz, "so, we are basically starting all over this season. We have a good group of players that learned the game last season on the junior varsity team, and we have a couple of girls that didn't play a year ago. When you combine that, we have a team that should have good depth at various positions and I expect it to be a team that takes the next step in volleyball at Elba High."

Coach Mularz stated a total of 36 players are taking part in the summer workouts that will play on the varsity, junior varsity and junior high squads, and conditioning has been a point of emphasis at all workouts.

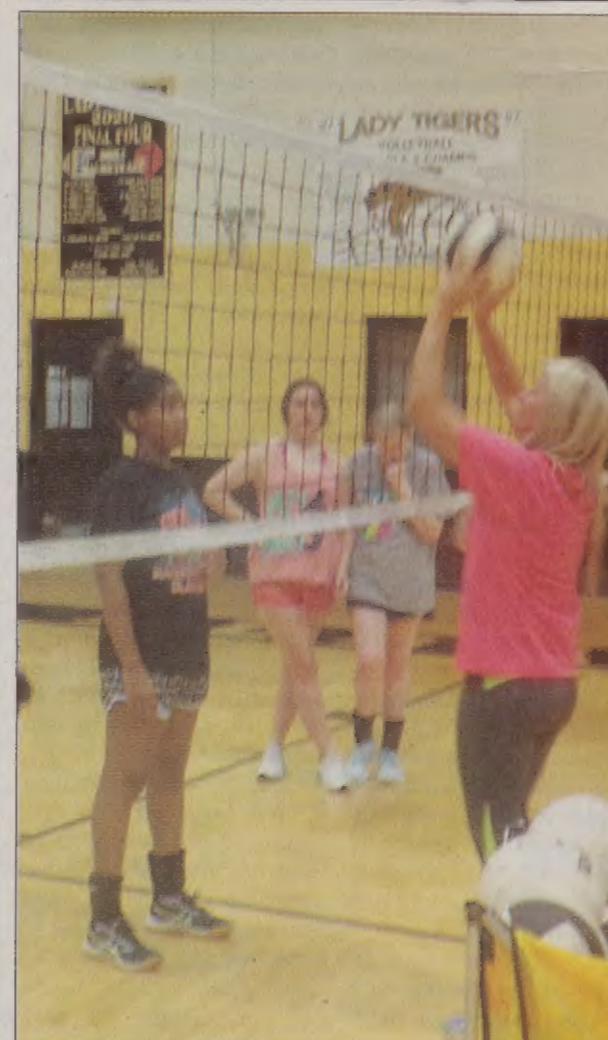
"All of our conditioning routine is devoted to making the players better volleyball players, not just making them sweat and be sore after we get through," said Coach Mularz. "We work to help the players jump higher, jump quicker, move faster on side-steps and get in position to make a return volley or save a ball in the gap. Everything



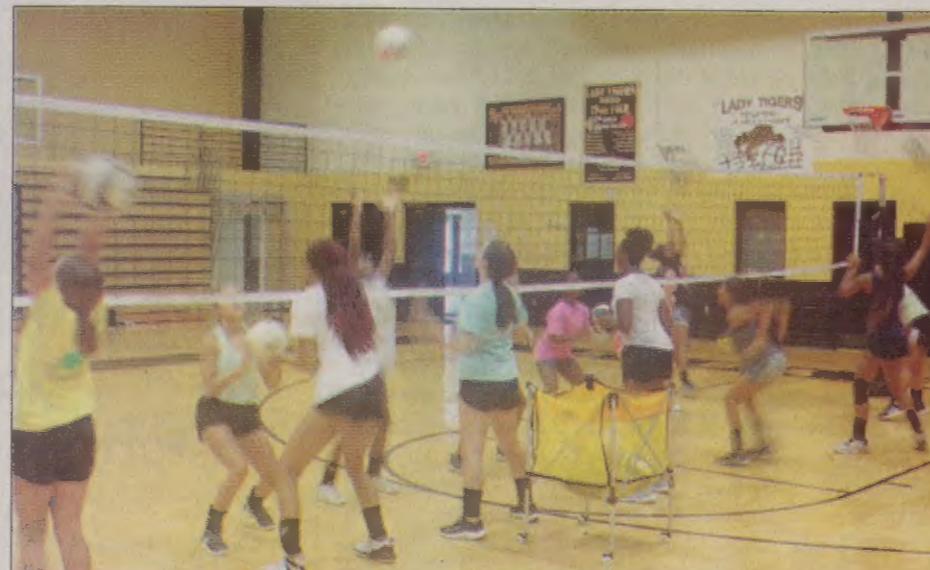
Coach Al Gilmore instructs offensive linemen at recent practice.



Coach Austin Johnson works with receivers.



Coach Melissa Mularz works with players.



Lady Tigers work at net during recent summer workout.

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